

# **PUBLIC FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATOR I**

The certification to this level will require the following:

- Step 1- Fulfill the examination entrance criteria
- Step 2- Submission and acceptance of an application and fee by the deadline date.
- Step 3- Successful completion of a written examination.
- Step 4- Successful completion of a practical examination.

## **STEP ONE- EXAMINATION ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

Examination entrance criteria for this level is the following:

- 1- At least 18 years of age at the time of the examination.
- 2- Possess a high school diploma or GED at the time of the examination.
- 3- Be a member of the Massachusetts fire service. (See examination application section three (3) for details.)

## **STEP TWO- APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

The attached application forms must be used and the forms may be duplicated. The application, all accompanying documentation, and fee must be submitted and received at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy no later than the deadline date noted in the examination schedule. The fee must be in the form of a personal check, bank draft, money order, municipal check, or municipal purchase order made to the order of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Trust Fund. All others will be rejected. Upon acceptance and review, the candidate will be assigned to the examination date requested on the application. All applicants will be notified by mail and if accepted will be supplied with all examination procedures.

- 1- Submission of a completed application for certification which includes attesting the candidate is at least eighteen (18) years of age and possesses a high school diploma or equivalent (GED) at the time of the examination.
- 2- Submission of an affidavit that the candidate is currently assigned to the position of Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I, has held such position for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the candidate's application date. (Refer to the attached "*Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I Assignment and Affidavit for Initial Certification*" form for details)
- 3- Submission of documentation that the candidate has successfully completed the training program "Public Fire and Life Safety Educator" offered by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy OR a current, valid Massachusetts Teaching Certificate.

4- Submit documentation the candidate has the following field experience.

20 hours of documented field experience with a minimum of 2 hours in each of the 3 categories of target populations.

- a) pre-school, kindergarten or elementary school,
- b) middle school, scouts, or high school, and
- c) community group, service group, adult group.

The remaining 14 hours could be in any of the three age groups.

(Refer to the attached “*Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I Field Experience Summary for Initial Certification*” form for details)

### **STEP THREE- WRITTEN EXAMINATION**

This written examination will consist of 100 multiple choice questions given in a 120 minute period designed to examine the candidates knowledge of NFPA Standard 1035 for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I, 2000 edition, in the following subject areas: General, Administration, Planning and Development, and Education.

The following manuals and Massachusetts specific documents shall be the reference sources for the examination.

IFSTA *Fire and Life Safety Educator*, second edition  
Current version of the Mass. *Curriculum Planning Guidebook*  
Current version of the Mass. Dept of Education *Health Curriculum Framework*

Candidates will be allowed to bring the *Curriculum Planning Guidebook* and the *Health Curriculum Framework* to complete the examination.

Upon successful completion of this written examination (70% or greater), the candidate will be assigned to a practical examination. The candidate will be notified by mail of the examination date, time, location, and supplied with examination information to include examination procedures and all potential practical skills to be examined.

### **SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

The following are sample questions to represent most of the **type** of questions a candidate will be asked to answer during the written examination.

1. For a candidate for this level of certification to be successful, he or she must do the following.
  - A. Take the examination process seriously.
  - B. Read all documentation carefully.
  - C. Study all references closely.
  - D. All of the above.

2. The transfer of heat by the movement of air or liquid best defines:
- A. conduction.
  - B. radiation.
  - C. convection.
  - D. direct flame contact.
3. Fragmented time should be used to:
- A. relax.
  - B. think.
  - C. make a “to do” list.
  - D. read mail.
4. A list of events, program requests, preprogram requirements, and time allotments are all components of:
- A. an activity report.
  - B. a written report.
  - C. a work schedule.
  - D. basic record keeping.
5. In teaching “Understanding & Practicing Escape Plans” to Grades 3 & 4, which is not a development skill?
- A. Likes to explore things.
  - B. Enjoys problem-solving strategies.
  - C. Mixed groups work well.
  - D. May rebel against authority.

#### ANSWERS

1. D    2. C    3. C    4. C    5. C

Candidates must achieve at least a 70% on this examination to receive a passing score for this step.

#### STEP FOUR- PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

During this step, there will be a two-station practical skills examination consisting of actual presentations from prepared lesson plans with the use of audio/visual aides. The candidate must achieve at least a 75% on each practical skills station with no failures in critical areas to receive a passing score for this step.

## **Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I- Recertification Requirements**

Once certified, certification will be valid for five (5) years. In order to maintain this certification, the Council has instituted recertification requirements similar to those for initial certification.

In order to become recertified as a Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I, you must fulfill the requirements as follows before the expiration date of the current certification.

Step 1- Submission of a completed application for recertification attesting you are at least eighteen (18) years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent (GED).

Step 2- Submission of an affidavit that the you are currently assigned to the position of Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I and have held such position for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the application date.

Step 3- Submit documentation that the you have attended a minimum of 30 hours of continuing education. Continuing education may be obtained over the entire five (5) year certification period with a maximum of 10 hours per year.

Step 4- Submit documentation you have had the following field experience.

20 hours of documented field experience with a minimum of 2 hours in each of the 3 categories of target populations.

- a) pre-school, kindergarten or elementary school,
- b) middle school, scouts, or high school, and
- c) community group, service group, adult group.

The remaining 14 hours could be in any of the three age groups.

Step 5- Submission of a recertification fee as established by the Council.

**If the certification of a Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I lapses, certification would be reissued only when the individual completes the requirements for initial certification.**